through the Amildars. It is particularly requested that the contract may be thrown open to competition.

Reply of Government.—The suggestion seems a good one; but any change in the present system must be made gradually.

Subject No. 31.
Maintenance and supervision of river channels.

Messrs. Lingegowda of Mysore Taluk and A. Anniah Pandit of Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Amildars should be empowered to estimate for and measure the annual maintenance work required to river channels, and also to have the sluices in such channels repaired during the cultivating season. At present raiyats do not get water till the officials of the Engineering Department come and take up the work.

Reply of Government.—The work devolves on the Public Works Department; but Amildars will be instructed to interest themselves in such matters.

Subject No. 32.
Engineering establishment to assist the Amildars.

Messrs. A. Anniah Pandit and D. Narasimiah of Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) Supervisors and other Public Works Department Officers at Taluk Head-quarters may be required to help the Taluk Amildars in preparing estimates of tanks and in taking measurements of works executed under the orders of the Amildars. The former do not render any such assistance now, Work Inspectors being employed to estimate works and give them out on contract.

Tank and Work Inspectors to be dispensed with.

(*b*) The services of the poorly paid Taluk Tank and Work Inspectors may be dispensed with. If this cannot be done, they may be placed under the Public Works Department Officers attached to the Taluk.

Reply of Government.—The matter will be enquired into; and if no difficulty should be found to exist, arrangements will be made to give Amildars departmental and professional aid whenever necessary.

Subject No. 33.
Guarantee for works turned out by contractors.

Messrs. A. Anniah Pandit and D. Narasimiah of Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—D. P. W. contractors may be made to give 3 or 5 years' guarantee for the works turned out by them. The case of the Ummattur Tank, which breached within a month of the completion of the work by the contractor, causing great loss to Government, is instanced in this connection. In former times a suitable guarantee was taken for works done through Amildars.

Reply of Government.—This seems to be an impracticable suggestion. It is for our Officers to see that work is properly done. The matter is, however, noted for consideration.

Subject No. 34.
Railway from Kadur to Chikmagalur.

Messrs. C. Srinivasa Row and C. Veerathegowda of Chikmagalur Taluk, and A. Shama Rao of the North Mysore Native Planters' Association.

Summary of discussion.—A railway line should be opened from Kadur to Chikmagalur and on to Mysore *via* Belur and Hassan, or *via* Aldur, Mudgere and Belur, on to Hassan. Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao in introducing this subject, went at length into the statistics of trade and other points bearing on the necessity for the proposed line, and also submitted a detailed memorandum embodying the said information.

Reply of Government.—The matter will receive careful consideration before a decision is arrived at.